भरूच जिले में टेलीफोन सेवाओं की असंतोषजनक स्थिति

1684. **श्री कनकसिंह मोहनसिंह मंगरोला:** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गुजरात के भरूच जिले के वागरा, जम्मूसर, अंकलेश्वर आदि क्षेत्रों में टेलीफोन सेवाओं की स्थिति असंतोषजनक पायी गयी है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके कारण क्या हैं; और

(ग) इस स्थिति में सुधार करने हेतु सरकार द्वारा क्या प्रयास किये जा रहे हैं?

संचार मंत्री (श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा): (क) से (ग) जी, नहीं। वागरा, जम्मूसर तथा अंकलेश्वर में टेलीफोन सेवाएं संतोषप्रद रूप से कार्य कर रही हैं। तथापि, अंकलेश्वर में, अप्रेल एवं मई 96 में नए इलेक्ट्रानिक एक्सचेंज (आर०एल०यू०) को चालू करने के लिए बड़े पैमाने पर केबल बिछाने का कार्य किया गया था। इस अवधि के दौरान बाह्य खराबियों (आउटडोर फाल्ट्स) में थोड़ी सी वृद्धि हुई थी।

Production of Raw Jute during Eighth Five Year Plan

1685. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the target of raw jute production during the Eighth five year plan and the actual productioon achieved so far;

(b) the reasons for shortfall; and

(c) the action plan to augment production in the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) 8th plan target for raw jute production fixed at 95 lakh bales for terminal year i.e. 1996-97. Actual production achieved during 8th plan period upto 1995-96 is given below:

Year (July/June)	Production (Lakh bales of 180 Kgs)
1992-93	89.98
1993-94	84.81
1994-95	93.31
1995-96 (Provisional)	78.00

(b) Main reasons for fluctuation in production are weather conditions at showing time, and also comparative profitability of jute and alternative crops.

(c) Steps to augment production include, inter alia, development of improved varieties of seeds and its timely distribution at reasonable rates to farmers, vigorous implementation of centrally sponsored special jute and mesta development programmes by Union Ministry of Agriculture jointly with Agriculture departments of programme various jute growing states improvement of retting system, extension of marketing facilities, etc.

Fake Indian Currency notes in Pakistan

1686. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan has counterfeited a large amount of fake Indian currency notes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to counter this assault on the Indian economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) Circulation/seizure of fake currency notes has been reported from time to time since 1994 from the bordering districts of Punjab, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, etc. However, it is yet to be established as to whether Pakistan has counterfeited a large amount of fake Indian currency notes.

(c) The State Governments/U.T. Administrations have been instructed to tighten the machinery to tackle the problem of counterfeiting of Indian currency. The RBI issues press releases from time to time to enable the public to distinguish between genuine and fake currency notes. The CBI has created a Special Unit for exclusive investigation of counterfeit currency notes. The Border Securi-